

Application No.: 10/782,348

Docket No.: JCLA12196-1

REMARKS**Present Status of the Application**

Claims 1-15 are rejected. Specifically, claims 1-4, 8-10, and 13-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Nakashima et al. (U. S. Patent 6,910,773; hereinafter Nakashima). Claims 5, 7 and 11-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakashima in view of Lian et al. (U. S. Publication 2005/0024591; hereinafter Lian). Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakashima in view of Lian and Akiyama et al. (U. S. Patent 6,633,435; hereinafter Akiyama). In addition, claim 8 and specification (drawing) are objected. Applicants have amended specification and claims 4 and 8 to correct typo errors. Applicants have added claim 16. After entry of foregoing amendments, claims 1-16 remain pending in the present application, and reconsideration of those claims is respectfully requested.

Objection to Drawings

The drawings were objected to because the element 1116 in Fig. 12 is not mentioned in the description.

Applicants amended the specification to describe element 1116. No new matter adds through the amendment.

Discussion of Claim Rejections under 35 USC 102

Claims 1-4, 8-10, and 13-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Nakashima. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections for at least the reasons set forth

Application No.: 10/782,348

Docket No.: JCLA12196-1

below.

1. With respect to independent claims 1 and 9, in the present invention, the two both-side telecentric groups, for example, composed of a condenser lens 1004 and a field lens 1008 (see FIG. 11) are used before the color splitting.

In re Nakashima, the elements 4 are the focusing lenses (col. 9, lines 63-65). However, Nakashima does not specifically disclose the condition of both-side telecentric group. Particularly, one focusing lens 4 between the elements 6 and 7. *This focusing lens 4 apparently is not the design of the second both-side telecentric group as recited in the claims 1 and 9.* In fact, there are five focusing lenses 4 shown in Fig. 2 of Nakashima with similar function. These focusing lenses 4 do not disclose the two both-side telecentric groups of the present invention.

Therefore, independent claims 1 and 9 are not disclosed.

2. With respect claims 8, 14, and 15, the color splitters of the present invention do not need the gradient coating film. The dichroic mirror of Nakashima is just for split the color components. *The dichroic mirror of Nakashima does not specifically disclose that the dichroic mirror is not coated with the gradient coating film*, which is for reducing the color uniformity, as discussed in [0010] of the present invention.

Therefore, claims 8, 14, and 15 are distinguishable over Nakashima, too.

Discussion of Claim Rejections under 35 USC 103

Claims 5, 7 and 11-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakashima in view of Lian. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

Application No.: 10/782,348

Docket No.: JCLA12196-1

over Nakashima in view of Lian and Akiyama. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections.

1. With respect to claims 5, 7, and 11-12, the Office Action further cites Lian in combination with Nakashima for rejections. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Lian also disclose the focusing lenses 16, 70 and 71 [0022]. Dependent claims 5, 7 and 11-12 are depending on independent claims 1 or 9. Lian does not disclose the two both-side telecentric groups as recited in independent claims 1 and 9.

Therefore, Nakashima and Lian either alone or in combination fail to disclose the features of the two both-side telecentric groups of the present invention. Claims 5, 7, and 11-12, with at least the same foregoing reasons applied to independent claims 1 and 9, are allowable.

2. With respect to claim 6, the Office Action further cites Akiyama in combination with Nakashima and Lian. Applicants respectfully disagree.

Claim 6 further recites that the liquid crystal reflection panels, which are parallel to the surfaces of the color-combination prism.

Lian discloses that the reflective polarization valves 30, 31, 32 in Fig. 1 are perpendicular to the surfaces of the color re-combination unit 61.

Akiyama in Fig. 1 disclose the liquid crystal panels 410R, 410G, 410B are *transmitting type*, but not the reflective type. Due the different of transmitting type and reflective type, they are designed in the different light paths. The liquid crystal panels 410R, 410G, 410B of Akiyama cannot obviously modify the reflective polarization valves 30, 31, 32 into the design of the present invention.

Applicants have also added claim 16 with the features similar to claim 6.

Application No.: 10/782,348

Docket No.: JCLA12196-1

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1 and 9 patently define over the prior art references, and should be allowed. For at least the same reasons, dependent claims 2-8 and 10-16 patently define over the prior art references as well.

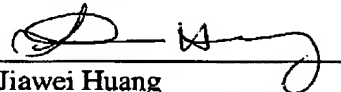
CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, it is believed that all the pending claims 1-16 of the invention patently define over the prior art and are in proper condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite the examination of the above-identified patent application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned.

Date: 1/26/2006

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